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500.36167CX1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: N. TAKAHASHI, et al

Serial No.: 09/496,465

Filed: February 2, 2000

For: ELECTRONIC BUSINESS TRANSACTION SYSTEM

Group: 3628

Examiner: D. Linzey

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OCT 11 2002

GROUP 3600

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

October 8, 2002

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 8, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 13-16 as follows:

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61  
13. (Twice Amended) A method of achieving electronic business transactions in an electronic business transaction system including a plurality of member sites, a center site, and a network to connect the member sites and the center site to each other, said method comprising:  
storing, in an open business information database included in said center site, information of open business issued by a plurality of member sites to find business partners, said information of open businesses describes products and/or